(iii) The analysis of survey data on the quantity of water supplied by schemes shows that actual supply is often less than the design, especially in summer.

(iv) The total expenditure on rural water supply schemes from 1993-94 to 2004-05 (2004-05 prices) was about Rs. 500 billion.

(v) The coping strategies adopted by households response to the inadequacies of water supply include traveling considerable distances and standing in long queues to collect water, storing water, incurring expenses on private water sources and incurring expenses on repairing public water sources. The average coping cost per household is Rs. 81 per month ranging from Rs. 32 to Rs. 287 per month across different categories of schemes.

(vi) A study on willingness to pay provides an indication of the value that consumers place on improved water supply and an assessment of the demand for service improvement. The underlying assumption is that if poor households can pay 3 percent of their income towards the water bill, then households with higher income can also spend 3 percent of their income on the water bill. The average expenditure on non-essential items incurred by rural house- holds in various states is commonly more than the estimated willingness to pay and affordability for a private connection. The analysis shows that an additional Rs. 4 billion could be made available each year, if households are charged according to their willingness to pay. With these resources, the coverage can be increased by 14 percent.

Survey regarding implementation of NREG by States

370. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UPA Government carried out any Survey in June, 2008 to find out which States performed better while implementing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact Rajasthan ranked No. 1 with 124.71 points to its credit and Maharashtra, first State to implement the scheme, was placed at bottom with 40.85 points on the table; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give any incentive to States like Rajasthan who have better job scheme record indicating the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir. The Government has not carried out any Survey in June, 2008 to find out the performance of States while implementing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has a comprehensive system for monitoring the implementation of NREGA. Based on the monthly progress reports from States on physical and financial progress, a one-time exercise of suggestive model of ranking on a simple weighted average was shared

with the States. The performance ranking based on selected indicators for Financial year 2007-08 was to facilitate internal review in which Rajasthan secured 124.71 points to the credit and Maharashtra secured 27th rank with 40.85 points.

New roads constructed under PMGSY in district Katihar, Bihar

371. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of new roads constructed under Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana and other Central Government sponsored schemes in district Katihar, Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), construction of Rs. 120.084 km. road length has been completed so far with the expenditure of Rs. 5803.36 lakh in Katihar district of Bihar.

Norms for determining wages under NREGS

†372. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the norms for determining wages for working on the surface and underground under NREGS are different;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to formulate a special scheme for the labourers who do the hazardous work under NREGS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The payment of wages under NREGA is made either on time rate basis or in accordance with Schedule of Rates (SOR).

(c) No, Sir. The permissible activities under NREGA, as laid down in para 1 of Schedule-I of NREG Act are non-hazardous in nature.

(d) Does not arise.

Rural Employment Schemes

†373. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural employment related schemes approved and being operated by Central Government;

(b) the State-wise and scheme-wise details of targets and achievements pertaining to these schemes during the last three years;

(c) whether all the States have been provided financial assistance in keeping with the scheme; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.